

July 8, 1955

Dear Mr Newman,

I am gathering information about the Higley Coppers in preparation for the publication of an article on these coins and about the man who struck them.

In an effort to obtain answers to two questions, I first wrote to Mr Mills, Curator of ANS. He referred me to Mr. F. C. Boyd of Ringoes, N.J. who in turn has given me your name.

The questions are these:

- ① Can you estimate the approximate number of Higley Coppers there are in existence?
- ② Who is now the owner of the "wheel" obverse specimen?

I would appreciate any information you may be able to give.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Cyril H. Hawley

July 12, 1955

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
West Simsbury, Connecticut

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your  
letter of July 8th to Eric F. Newman.

Mr. Newman is away on vacation and will  
return the first part of August. Your  
letter will receive his attention at  
that time.

Very truly yours,

Secretary to Mr. Newman

atb

August 18, 1955

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
West Simsbury, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Hawley:

I am delighted to cooperate with anybody doing numismatic research and am enclosing my most recent effort in that respect.

I have been very interested in the Higley coinage and I have in my collection what is reputed to be the finest specimen known. It is the identical coin illustrated in the Standard Catalogue as the first item.

There are a number of die variations in certain types of the Higley coppers and I have some information in my files on this matter. As to the number of Higley coppers in existence, I would estimate there certainly are not more than 100 but, unfortunately, there are electrotypes of certain of the Higley coppers which are very dangerous and which many people think are real. I have one of these in my own collection. I have 5 genuine Higleys in my own collection. The wheel piece, I believe, is in the Garrett collection at Johns Hopkins University and I will see if I can find my notes with respect to that item. There is also, as you know, the copy made by Bolen but these are readily distinguishable from the genuine pieces.

A good friend of mine, Mr. Sturgis, turned over 5 specimens to some historical society in Connecticut and I would be very interested in knowing whether these are genuine or whether they are not. Would you be kind enough to enlighten me whether you are familiar with those coins.

I certainly will be interested in seeing your article and if you wish to let me see the text before it is published, I may be able to add some information to it. In any event, I will be glad to help you in any way I can.

Sincerely yours,

SPS/atb

CYRIL H. HAWLEY  
WEST SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

Sept 10 1955

Dear Mr. Newman

I appreciate very much your letter of August 18 and will be very glad to have your help in completing the article on Higley coinage.

As you undoubtedly know, we have been living through a rather hectic period here in the East and only now are things approaching normal in business and travel. I trust you will excuse my delay in replying to your letter.

You ask about the 5 specimens of Higley formerly owned by Mr. Sturgis. I'm very glad to be able to help you with information about these pieces.

They were presented to the Simsbury Historical Society by one of the old families of the town who purchased them from Mr. Sturgis.

As president of our local Numismatic Society, I was asked to assist in the authentication, and a display case was provided by our club to house the coins.

Four were genuine and one was an electrotyp. To the best of my

CYRIL H. HAWLEY  
WEST SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

recollection, two were the three hammer variety and two were Broad Ape 1737

Only one of the Broad Ape was in better than good condition, the other three were well worn.

You may be interested to know about one of the expenses (numismatic) caused by the recent flood.

A friend of mine and I have been putting the numismatic collection of the Connecticut Historical Society in order. It has apparently been neglected for many years both in care and appreciation. This has been a labor of love for us and when the flood struck we were only about 10% complete.

Unfortunately the coins were stored in a vault which was submerged. We were lucky in being able to get them out and in a team work effort the entire collection was washed and air dried before the contaminated soaking could damage more than a very few coins.

I hope I haven't bored you with this rather rambling effort

Sincerely  
C. H. Hawley

October 17, 1955

Mr. Cyril Hawley  
West Simsbury, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Hawley:

I understand that the Connecticut Historical Society bulletin, recently published, contains an article on the Higley coppers.

Would it be possible for you to arrange to send me a copy of the article as I am very much interested in whatever new material you have been able to produce.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC F. NEWMAN

epn/atb



November 8, 1955

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
West Simsbury, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Hawley:

Thank you, very much, for your letter of October 25 and the sample of the copper from the Simsbury Mine. I was very excited to see copper that pure running through the ore.

As to obtaining a picture of "The Wheel Goes Round", that is item No. 2067 in the Garrett collection, at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Sarah Elizabeth Freeman is in charge of the collection and has indicated she will be glad to have pictures taken of any items in their collection. Perhaps they have a negative of the piece already and can make prints with no difficulty. There are some additional varieties which are not in Crosby - one in the Newcomer collection - which is a combination of Crosby VIII No. 17, Crosby VIII No. 18. I believe I have a picture of another piece which is not listed there.

As to the choice piece in my own collection, which is in extremely fine condition and, apparently, the finest specimen known of the entire Higley coinage, do you want me to have its picture taken and what type of enlargement do you wish. I also would like to know whether you want me to take pictures of the other nice specimens in my collection.

Incidentally, if you have another piece of the ore it might be nice to send one to Fred Boyd, P.O. Box 153, Ringoes, New Jersey, and state that I suggested it to you. I have not examined his Higley pieces but will ask to do so at my earliest opportunity.

Kindest regards and keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

EPR/atb

January 5, 1956

Mr. Cyril E. Hawley  
West Simsbury, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Hawley:

Just a note to tell you that in the Numismatist, Volume 26, page 380, is an article entitled "New Varieties of Higley Copper". I do not have a copy of the article available in St. Louis, as it was probably published about the time of World War I. You can get a copy at any of the numismatic libraries.

I thought this might be of help to you if you do not already know it.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EEN/atb



May 12, 1950

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
38 Hedgehog Lane  
West Simsbury, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Hawley:

The piece of copper ore which you once sent me from the Simsbury Mine is a pleasant reminder of you.

I have written a monograph which I have submitted to A.N.S. on items in Massachusetts silver not included in the Noe material. My monograph is principally on the subject of the Good Samaritan Shilling. Ken Bressett tells me that you have a shilling with a new combination of dies, Noe 12 obverse and Noe 13 reverse. I would like to include this in my writing and would appreciate it if you would send it to me for examination and photography. I will return it within a couple of days after its arrival and I hope you can cooperate with me in that regard. If you already have pictures of it and can send me its weight, that may satisfy.

I hope you will find my article in the Centennial number of A.N.S. interesting

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC F. NEWMAN

EFS/stb

May 22, 1958

Mr. April E. Hawley  
30 Galesburg Lane  
West Haverhill, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Hawley:

I was very pleased to receive your letter of  
May 18, 1958.

The two iron obolites which was designated as  
having obverse Noe 14 and reverse Noe 13 is  
very interesting. Since Noe 13 and Noe 14 have the  
same obverse and reverse dies and the differences  
are a substantial amount of rubbing of the dies,  
I find that your piece is a transitional piece and  
specifically demonstrates which parts of the obverse  
die were worn first.

I have noted on the obverse that there are small dots  
in the rings, like Noe 13; the top of "B" is distant  
from the outer ring of dots like Noe 13; the "B"  
has plain ends, like 13; the top of the third "B"  
has no serif like 13; and the bare terminal on the  
tree have been made slungy by rubbing, as on 14,  
and the top of the second "B" has a serif, like 14.

The reverse is exactly like 13 in all respects.

I will write you further.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM F. KAMMAN

WFK/stb

June 12, 1958

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
34 Hedgehog Lane  
West Simsbury, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Hawley:

You were very nice to send me the two coins from your collection for my examination.

I checked the Oak Tree carefully with other coins of the same variety and I find there are various states of the transformation of See 13 into See 14 and yours is the most interesting one.

As to the Connecticut Cent which you forwarded, I think both the obverse and the reverse are new. I do not find that the reverse checks with 3329, as you indicate. I have taken a picture of this item and enclose a print for your file.

If there are any other intriguing Colonials which you think I should see you might send them to me this fall.

I promise you I will keep writing in the Colonial field and appreciate your nice comments concerning my article in the Centennial Issue of A.N.S.

Would you have any idea why I cannot get an answer from the Mattatuck Historical Society, 119 West Main Street, Waterbury, Connecticut? I have written them on several occasions and they do not even respond. Do you know the situation?

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

CYRIL H. HAWLEY

WEST SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

July 17, 1958

Mr. Virgil E. Newman  
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.  
434 Washington Ave.  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Sorry for the delay in answering your letter of June 12, but I have been unable, until today, to get any information for you about the Natituck Victorian Society.

I have learned this much.

The name of the man in charge down there is HERBERT A. HADRON. However, he is rather aged and perhaps is overwhelmed with work.

This society has very little endowment and he carries on to the best of his abilities.

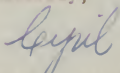
If your inquiries have reference to tokens originating in Waterbury, I would suggest that you contact Souville Mfg. Co. and the Waterbury Brass Co. direct. Both companies have extensive collections of their production of these items.

Incidentally, the shavers of the Conn. Cent I sent for your examination matches another I have and also some the Dick Ficker has. The only difference being in the cracks as described by Milten.

I'd prefer you were right about the shavers being new, too, but at least the reverse has not been matched.

I trust you have a pleasant summer.

Sincerely,



CHH:sh

CYRIL H. HAWLEY  
28 Hedgehog Lane, RFD 2  
West Simsbury, Conn.

July 21, 1958

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
38 Hedgehog Lane, RFD 2  
West Simsbury, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Hawley:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of  
July 17.

Mr. Newman will be out of the office until the  
middle of August and when he returns, your letter  
will be brought to his attention.

Very truly yours,

(Miss) Katherine Welge

klw

August 22, 1958

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
38 Hedgehog Lane, RFD 2  
West Simsbury, Conn.

Dear Cyril:

I have not had a chance to answer your letter since I returned from my vacation but our correspondence concerning your Connecticut piece points to one important need in the numismatic field, namely, a book of photographs of the Connecticut coppers. This was suggested to me early this summer as something I could work up and I fully realize it needs the cooperation of many others. It is a major undertaking but would be very worthwhile. Is your collection of Connecticut cents substantial, so that many choice items could be photographed from it?

Norman Bryant, of New Haven, once threatened to work up a publication of Connecticut varieties but, apparently, that work has bogged down. Most of his collection, unfortunately, are not in really nice condition but he certainly has an amazing number of varieties.

Would you be kind enough to give me some idea of how many varieties of Connecticut cents you have and, if you happen to have a list of the specific varieties, it would be most helpful.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC F. NEWMAN

EFE/stb



September 30, 1958

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
38 Hedgehog Lane, RFD 2  
West Simsbury, Conn.

Dear Mr. Hawley:

You will recall that you were kind enough to lend me your specimen of the transition state of the Oak Tree shilling between Nos 13 and Nos 14.

My monograph on Massachusetts silver has been accepted by the American Numismatic Society for publication and I definitely need a picture of your coin for publication.

When I first wrote this article I determined not to expand it to include minor varieties of genuine coins but I have determined that yours is a major variety and should be listed officially.

Would you be kind enough to lend me the coin again?

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

E N/atb

CYRIL H. HAWLEY

WEST SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

34 Hedgehog Lane, WP 2  
October 5, 1958

Mr. Eric S. Newman  
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.  
431 Lexington Ave.  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I'm very happy to loan you the transition  
stick and free piece that you desire.

My congratulations on the AMA acceptance  
of your monograph.

Do you have any idea when it may be pub-  
lished?

Sincerely,

*Cyril*

CHH:CH

CYRIL H. HAWLEY

October 31, 1958

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
38 Hedgehog Lane  
West Simsbury, Conn.

Dear Cyril:

Under separate cover I am returning your Oak Tree Noe 13.3 and you will see its smiling face in my monograph which will be published very early in 1959.

I am enclosing pictures of a similar variety known as 13.6 which you will note has additional die cutting evidence on the lettering, particularly the second A on the obverse.

I am very grateful for your cooperation in connection with this phase of my work (fun) and I look forward to meeting you some day so that I can thank you personally.

I am now ready to examine and study your Immune Columbia Nova Constellatio pieces. Dick Picker writes me that they are on exhibit and whenever you have an opportunity, I would appreciate examining them.

I am also sending you under separate cover a token of my appreciation for your helpfulness and hope it will tie us together more closely.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN:atb

March 10, 1960

Mr. Cyril M. Hawley  
30 Hedgehog Lane  
West Simsbury, Conn.

Dear Cyril:

I certainly look forward to the time when we can meet. I was thinking of you as I was coming from Boston to New York on the train a few days ago.

With respect to my research on Connecticut copper coinage, I am hopeful that you will republish the Miller list with pictures and to add to that the story which I have developed from the report of the inspectors which you were kind enough to send to me.

I would like to obtain for my library a copy of the pamphlet of the Hartford Numismatic Society entitled "Auctori Connec and Other Emissions". Do you know how I might be able to obtain it?

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Box 3, R7D✓

March 20, 1960

Dear Eric,

It was nice to receive your note.

A revised Miller list with photographs is something I've looked forward to for years.

Norm Bryant was engaged on this job many years ago but I haven't heard of much progress lately.

If you can convince Alld to undertake such a project I'm sure we won't have too long a wait for something worthwhile.

I've never had my Connecticut photographs.

I enclose a copy of the "Historic Corner" booklet. It was put out by H.N.S. as a souvenir of the last N.E.N.H. Convention.

Enclosed copy is yours with my compliments. Someday I hope we can get together. I'm sure I'd enjoy that very much indeed. The next best thing is correspondence. I like that, too.

Sincerely  
Cyril

March 25, 1960

Mr. Cyril Hawley  
Box 3, RFD 2  
West Missbury, Connecticut

Dear Cyril,

Thank you, very much, for the interesting pamphlet on Connecticut numismatics.

I am glad to know of your enthusiasm for a Connecticut book and I know that Norm Bryant will cooperate in pushing this matter forward. Apparently he just does not have time to put in the necessary hours. My friend, Ned Barnsley, who lives in Philadelphia, is an expert on Connecticut pieces and will probably enjoy doing much of the work with me.

Would it be possible for you to tell me approximately how many different varieties of Connecticut coppers you have, or perhaps you have a list of the various varieties in your collection. It might be even worth while for you to make such a list as I am sure they are neatly assembled. Where we do have good pictures of a particular variety we would not have to bother you but on those where our pictures are poor it might be well to do so.

There is one other request I wish to make of you. In the article you wrote in the pamphlet you sent you mention that coins called "Black Dogs" were ordered in 1721 to pass at twopence each. Do you have the exact date of this act or the full text of it? If you do, I would be grateful. If you do not, I will write to a student at Yale who can go into their library and copy it off for me.

You may be interested in knowing that the so-called Morris Cove Mint and the Westville Mint are figments of the imagination, in my opinion.



Page 2  
Mr. Cyril Hawley

March 25, 1960

I cannot conclude without telling you, again, that all of the new research I have done on the Connecticut piece is due to your kindness in sending me that report of the commissioners. I am going to save it all as a big surprise to you. I am now even able to prove that the June 1, 1787 closing was a scrivener's error.

My very kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. FENNER

EPF/atb

CYRIL H. HAWLEY  
EAST HARTLAND, CONNECTICUT

Oct 25, 1963

Dear Eric

It has been some time since anything has come to me which might interest you in your research.

The enclosed note is one which I acquired recently from a collection which consisted of this piece, all by itself, among a handful of Confederate currency.

What company to keep!

Dick Pichee tells me you are in the midst of a study of Colonial paper.

If this piece can help you at all, I'll be happy. In any case I'd appreciate any information you might give me about it and your estimate of its rarity.

Best regards to you.

Sincerely  
Cyril

You will note that my address has changed since our last correspondence  
C.

October 30, 1963

Mr. Cyril H. Hawley  
East Hartland, Connecticut

Dear Cyril:

We simply must meet as we would have so much in common. My daughter recently married a New Yorker and this may give me more of an opportunity to be in New York.

You were very nice to send me the Massachusetts 1779 3 shilling note which I am returning herewith. This is the 1779 issue and the plates were engraved by Paul Revere. This series is the least rare of the Revere notes but, nevertheless, scarce. I am familiar with all of these items because I have done a good deal of work on Revere's participation in paper money.

I am about to submit for publication an article concerning Benjamin Franklin's invention with respect to paper money, an invention involving nature printing which has never been disclosed before. Naturally, my other research goes on.

I certainly appreciate your cooperation in letting me work on curious items which come your way.

I am so glad to be back to working on regular numismatic matters instead of exposing frauds as I have endless work to complete and do not like to be diverted too long.

My very best wishes to you as a true collector - which is a rarity these days.

Cordially,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

May 9, 1966

Mr. Cyril M. Hawley

Eric F. Newman

Dear Cyril:

My son is getting married in West Hartford, Connecticut, on June 19. My daughter is giving a party in her home, in Stamford, Connecticut, on June 18. I am going to attend my son's graduation, at Harvard, on June 17.

Up to the last minute I have no idea whether there is a possibility of my meeting you, since you are so close to Hartford, but I did not want to be in the area and not tell you I was there.

I still have your Noe 37 and am trying to help work out the puzzle which Dick has proposed with respect to these items.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

E.F.N. Box 14020  
St. Louis, Missouri 63118

CC: Mr. Richard Ficker

EFN/atb

CYRIL H. HAWLEY  
EAST HARTLAND, CONNECTICUT 06027

May 12, 1966

Dear Eric,

Thanks for your short note of the 9<sup>th</sup>

It seems to me that your family  
ceremonies will keep you quite busy enough  
during your trip to Connecticut next month.

I'm sure that a future visit will  
offer a more leisurely program and  
at that time you may plan ahead  
with more assurance.

I appreciate your thought but please  
don't attempt to include too much at this  
time.

You will be in the State again before  
long.

I'm quite unaware of the type of "puzzle" regarding  
the N 37 you speak of. It will be interesting to  
hear more.

Best regards

Sincerely  
Cyril

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THE COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

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P.O.Box 4411  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

February 16, 1974

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

With a three day weekend at hand I shall attempt to catch up on several subjects that I have intended writing to you about in addition to the data I have recently sent to you on "Crosby" and "Buell-West".

In one of your letters you asked about my observation that your "Connecticut" punches could be dated by analysis. I suppose that I had two ideas in mind when I made that comment. First - the punches with the smaller shanks appeared to me to be fabricated from a relatively modern (past 100 years, or so) tool steel bar stock, and a quantitative spectral analysis would pretty well show if that were the case. In fact, the small lines that appear to have been scribed across each of the punches appeared to be where material had been removed for that purpose so I made the assumption that you or someone else had had such tests made on them. Secondly - about two years ago I was talking with a representative of the Battelle Memorial Institute/Columbus Laboratories (they were looking for a local representative in Huntsville) and he mentioned a new device that they were using for materials research similar to an electron microprobe except that it used Helium ions for bombardment instead of electrons. Theirs was the first of these machines to go into use. He claimed that it was very much superior to earlier devices and capable of producing spectrums that would permit comparative analysis and dating to a very high degree of accuracy. He specifically mentioned Battelle's work in the dating of sword blades. We talked in general about many things relative to numismatics and techniques that could be applied - in particular to coins, especially coppers, and my conclusion was that the techniques exist today to determine all we need to know to answer all the questions relative to the — *manufacture of* — early American coinages. For example - even to determining the temperature of the flans at the time they struck by the coinage dies, and so on.

Cyril Hawley no longer lives in West Simsbury. I promised him that I would not publish his address nor reveal it to anyone. I am certain that his concern did not include you, Eric, but a promise is a promise. If you will address him in care of CNL I will remail your envelope and letter on to him. All this may seem very foolish to you Eric, but look at what happened to Earle Sherwood last month in Florida.



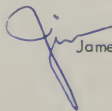
The concern that you expressed over some of the things that are published in CNL is one that I share also, and I think you would be amazed at the quantity of material that I do not publish. However that does not help when something appears that requires correction and I suppose that Walter's comments about the "100 grain" Machin's Mills coins is a good example. But - just exactly what is a Machin's Mills coin? Tory halfpence? Back dated 1785 Connecticut? A cast Connecticut? Things made by Eli Leavenworth? (or for him)? How can any of us take issue with Walter when we are not even sure what he has in mind? So - this is something that I am personally willing to challenge as an observation from Ye Editor if someone will advise me what to say -- I believe that I can put any such challenge into a form that will not offend anyone. On the other hand I know from experience that it just does not work out to even attempt to have someone review everything in advance - the review takes place (in fact) when the some 200 issues of CNL go to our Patrons and I DO realize that this is a technique that might create problems if the preliminary nature of all such material is not recognized and accepted as such. On the other hand I do from time to time send material to others for review prior to the time it appears in CNL, and once in awhile have a rebuttal in hand long before the article appears.

Sometimes data get so conflicting and unbelievable that I summarize it and send it out either as a summary or as a CNL Private Data Letter to those who have contributed information or have expressed a special interest in some way or another. "Buell-West" is such a summary.

I would be very honored Eric to have your send me the design of the South Carolina coinage as well as your material on the Connecticut Treasurer's records for "publication" in CNL if you do not mind taking the chance that someone will take issue with parts of it in the very next issue. Otherwise, please choose some other media - but please publish it someplace because both are important to a better understanding of early American numismatics. There are so very many such items around that have apparently gone without answer or exploration since the era of Hickcox and Crosby and it is long past the time that they should see the light of day.

Finally, I believe that you said that you had obtained your copies of the Crosby "parts" that had been sent to the American Museum of Natural History as an original subscriber, but I do not find them listed (at least by that name) in Crosby's tabulation facing page 378 (in my "Green" reprint). Did I misunderstand what you said?

Best regards,



James C. Spilman

*JCS*

Smith Road  
East Hartland, Conn. 06027  
March 23, 1974

James G. Spillman, Editor  
The Colonial Newsletter  
P. O. Box 4611  
Mantoloking, Alabama 35002

Dear Mr. Spillman:

Your letter of the 15th to my husband arrived today.

I am sorry to tell you that Cyril passed away on the 29th of June last year from a heart attack.

I am pleased that Mr. Barnsley and Mr. Moore wanted to get in touch with Cyril in connection with the "Humble-More Conventions Concerns Invention Certificate" which appeared in your October 1973 Newsletter. Cyril would have been very proud of the fact that you published the above.

I am writing to each of them, suggesting that if this is where their interest lies, they get in touch with Richard Moore, the co-author, whose address is Nassau Plantation, 680 Newlander Street, Simsbury, Conn., 06070. I think he is the Simsbury Historical Society's Managing Director.

Thank you respecting Cyril's wishes with regard to not giving out his address.

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth J. Hawley*  
Mrs. Cyril H. Hawley